

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

1. ACCIDENTS TO TIGER AND PANTHER

The following two incidents will undoubtedly interest your readers. I think they are well worth recording.

Immediately after cattle had been driven into the labourers lines by the herdsmen one evening, a woman was drawing water in a bucket from a well close to the road where the cattle had just passed.

She had just raised the bucket of water and was pouring it into her pail, when a $\frac{3}{4}$ grown tiger sprang clean over her head and disappeared down the well!

Neighbours nearby saw this and went to the well where the tiger was standing on his hind legs, with his head out of the water. Soon afterwards it was shot by the European in charge of the Estate. The tiger had evidently followed up the cattle and for some reason had mistaken the woman for one of the animals.

Anyhow, it is most unusual for a $\frac{3}{4}$ grown tiger to be a man-eater. It was indeed lucky for her that she had simultaneously stooped to pour the water into her pail as the tiger sprang.

The woman was unable to speak for two days, but after a good peg of whisky she soon commenced to talk and her husband said she talked all right!

The second incident is that of a full grown leopard being found dead in a drain near the labourers' lines with a domestic cat in its mouth. Both were dead.

Obviously the leopard had attacked the cat whose head was in the leopard's mouth. On closer examination it was discovered that the cat had bitten through the leopard's wind pipe and there were claw marks through the tongue—Hats off to the cat!

DIKAL CAMP,
DARRANG, ASSAM,
January 6, 1956.

FRANK NICHOLLS

2. SLEEPING DOGS

In his customary Nature Notes in the *Daily Telegraph*, M.B. (a well-known naturalist-writer) questions whether when a domestic dog walks round and round before settling down it is because its wild ancestor did so. He remarks that even in domestic dogs it seems not to be a common habit. Making enquiry of various dog owners he received various replies, but two particular views were given frequently. The first was that dogs are less prone to this particular trick than they used to be. The other was that this circling action is most noticeable in kennel-kept dogs. In common with a large number of sportsmen who have kept dogs in India for 'Bobby Pack' purposes I can recollect that the circling habit before lying down was

fairly common among them. But I kept no notes on the matter. 'Perhaps' says M. B. 'our ancestors were responsible for it (the circling habit) rather than the dogs'.

The purpose of this note is to invite those who can throw light on the subject to do so.

C/O LLOYDS BANK LTD.,
39 PICCADILLY, W. 1,
December 11, 1955.

R. W. BURTON,
Lt.-Col. I.A. (Retd.).

3. THE BROW-ANTLERED DEER OR THAMIN (*PANOLIA ELDI THAMIN* THOMAS) IN THE UNION OF BURMA (1955)

The thamin has been declared a completely protected animal under section 6 of the Burma Wild Life Protection Act, 1936, vide Ministry of Agriculture and Forests Notification No. 237 dated the 16th August, 1955.

DISTRIBUTION

A survey was conducted by the Conservators of Forests, Northern Circle and Chindwin Circle in their respective circles during 1954. On request by the writer, the Conservators of Forests, Hlaing and Sittang Circles carried out a similar survey in their circles during the current year (1955).

Northern Circle

West-Katha Division :

There are approximately about 100-150 animals in the unclassified forests along the villages of Ye-Oh, Aingyi-le and Ohne generally known as Phalekwin comprising an area of about 20 square miles and situated in the south-west corner of the Division. The habitat is scrub Indaing jungle dotted with grass patches.

East Katha Division :

About 200 animals are in existence in the Division. They are found in all dry places under scrub forests with patches of grass from the foot of Tagaung Hill towards Shwebo Division in the unclassified forests and situated round about Tagaung, Magyigon, Mingon, Kyarhnyat, Pauktabin, Twin-nge and Thabeikkyin along the Irrawaddy covering an area of about 50 square miles in the southern part of the Division.

Shwebo Division :

The estimated numbers now in existence are as follows :

Shwebo Range	300
Kanbalu Range	300
Thaw Range	600

The range of this species covers all scrub indaing areas, especially those now constituted as fuel reserves—Thityabin, Thaw and Kyaikthin